



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
10117 PRINCESS PALM DRIVE SUITE 120  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33610

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

February 22, 2008

Tampa Regulatory Office  
SAJ-2007-4919 (NW-JPF)

Jim Wilt  
FDOT District One  
VIA E-MAIL jim.wilt1@dot.state.fl.us

Dear Applicant:

Your application for a Department of the Army permit received on November 16, 2007, has been assigned number SAJ-2008-0067 (NW-JPF). A review of the information and drawings provided shows the proposed work is 0.49 acre of impact to waters of the United States for construction of passing lanes on State Road 70. The proposed project is located along SR 70 from SE Turkey Hammock Road to one mile west of the DeSoto/Highlands County line, in Sections 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 37 South, Range 25 East, and Sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 37 South, Range 26 East, in DeSoto County, Florida. This project is referenced by FDOT as FPID 420983.

Your projects, as depicted on the received drawings, are authorized by Nationwide Permit (NWP) Number 14. In addition, project specific conditions have been enclosed. This verification is valid for a period of two years after the date of this letter. Please access the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Jacksonville District's Regulatory web address at <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/regulatory/permitting/nwp/nwp.htm> to access web links to view the Final Nationwide Permits, Federal Register Vol. 72, dated March 12, 2007, the Corrections to the Final Nationwide Permits, Federal Register 72, May 8, 2007, and the List of Regional Conditions. These files contain the description of the Nationwide Permit authorization, the Nationwide Permit general conditions, and the regional conditions, which apply specifically to this verification for NWP 14. Additionally, enclosed is a list of the six General Conditions, which apply to all Department of the Army authorizations. You must comply with all of the special and general conditions and any project specific condition of this authorization or you may be subject to enforcement action. In the event you have not completed construction of your project within the specified time limit, a separate application or re-verification may be required.

The following special conditions are included with this verification:

1. Within 60 days of completion of the work authorized, the attached "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" must be completed and submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mail the completed form to the Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.
2. No structure or work shall adversely affect or disturb properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places or those eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Prior to the start of work, the Permittee or other party on the Permittee's behalf, shall conduct a search in the National Register Information System (NRIS). Information can be found at; <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/nris.htm>. Information on properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register can be identified by contacting the Florida Master File Office by email at [fmsfile@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:fmsfile@dos.state.fl.us) or by telephone at 850-245-6440.

If unexpected cultural resources are encountered at any time within the project area that was not the subject of a previous cultural resource assessment survey, work should cease in the immediate vicinity of such discoveries. The permittee, or other party, should notify the SHPO immediately, as well as the appropriate Army Corps of Engineers office. After such notifications, project activities should not resume without verbal and/or written authorization from the SHPO.

If unmarked human remains are encountered, all work shall stop immediately, and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes, unless on Federal lands. After such notifications, project activities on non-Federal lands shall not resume without verbal and/or written authorization from the Florida State Archaeologist for finds under his or her jurisdiction.

3. As mitigation for the wetland impacts authorized by this permit, the permittee will purchase 0.09 freshwater forested wetland credit and 0.12 freshwater herbaceous wetland credit from the Peace River Mitigation Bank. The applicant shall submit proof of the purchase within 90 days of permit issuance to the Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019. The purchase shall be made

prior to commencing any of the wetland impacts authorized by this DA permit.

4. The permittee agrees to implement the attached 'Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake' (as revised July 27, 1999) to minimize the potential for impacts to the eastern indigo snake.

This letter of authorization does not obviate the necessity to obtain any other Federal, State, or local permits, which may be required. In Florida, projects qualifying for this NWP must be authorized under Part IV of Chapter 373 by the Department of Environmental Protection, a water management district under §. 373.069, F.S., or a local government with delegated authority under §. 373.441, F.S., and receive Water Quality Certification (WQC) and Coastal Zone Consistency Concurrence (CZCC) (or a waiver), as well as any authorizations required by the State for the use of sovereignty submerged lands. You should check State-permitting requirements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the appropriate water management district.

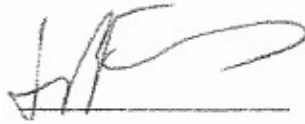
This letter does not give absolute Federal authority to perform the work as specified on your application. The proposed work may be subject to local building restrictions mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program. You should contact your local office that issues building permits to determine if your site is located in a flood-prone area, and if you must comply with the local building requirements mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program.

If you are unable to access the internet or require a hardcopy of any of the conditions, limitations, or expiration date for the above referenced NWP, please contact John Fellows by telephone at 813-769-7067.

Thank you for your cooperation with our permit program. The Corps Jacksonville District Regulatory Division is committed to improving service to our customers. We strive to perform our duty in a friendly and timely manner while working to preserve our environment. We invite you to take a few minutes to visit the following link and complete our automated Customer Service Survey:

[http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/permit/forms/customer\\_service.htm](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/permit/forms/customer_service.htm).  
Your input is appreciated - favorable or otherwise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'LM' followed by a stylized flourish.

for

Loren M. Mason  
Chief, Special Projects  
and Enforcement Branch

Enclosures

GENERAL CONDITIONS

33 CFR PART 320-330

PUBLISHED FEDERAL REGISTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1986

1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends two years after the date of the verification letter. If you find that you need more time to complete the authorized activity, submit your request for a time extension to this office for consideration at least one month before the above date is reached.
2. You must maintain the activity authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with General Condition 4 below. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activity or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this permit from this office, which may require restoration of the area.
3. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archeological remains while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify this office of what you have found. We will initiate the Federal and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
4. If you sell the property associated with this permit you must obtain the signature of the new owner in the space provided and forward a copy of the permit to this office to validate the transfer of this authorization.
5. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued for your project, you must comply with the conditions specified in the certification as special conditions to this permit. For your convenience, a copy of the certification is attached if it contains such conditions.
6. You must allow representatives from this office to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit.

SELF-CERTIFICATION STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Permit Number: NW-14

Application Number: SAJ-2007-4919 (NW-JPF)

Permittee's Name & Address (please print or type): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of the Work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Work Started: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Work Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of the Work (e.g., bank stabilization, residential or commercial filling, docks, dredging, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Acreage or Square Feet of Impacts to Waters of the United States: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe Mitigation completed (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe any Deviations from Permit (attach drawing(s) depicting the deviations): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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I certify that all work, and mitigation (if applicable) was done in accordance with the limitations and conditions as described in the permit. Any deviations as described above are depicted on the attached drawing(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Permittee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT TRANSFER REQUEST

Permit Number: NW-14

Application Number: SAJ-2007-4919 (NW-JPF)

When the structures or work authorized by this permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this permit will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. Although the construction period for works authorized by Department of the Army permits is finite, the permit itself, with its limitations, does not expire.

To validate the transfer of this permit and the associated responsibilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below and mail to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enforcement Branch, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(TRANSFeree-SIGNATURE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SUBDIVISION)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(LOT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(BLOCK)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME-PRINTED)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(STREET ADDRESS)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(MAILING ADDRESS)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Department of the Army Decision Document for Above-Numbered Nationwide Permit Verification

1. For each of the reissued and new Nationwide Permits (NWP), HQUSACE issued a decision document that contains an Environmental Assessment (EA), Statement of Findings, public interest review, and as appropriate, a Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines analysis. The Office of the Chief of Engineers has determined that division and district engineers will impose, as necessary, additional conditions on the NWP authorization or exercise discretionary authority to address locally important factors relating to the public interest, including any potential adverse effects on the human environment, and to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the environment. Supplemental documentation was prepared for the division engineer to address the individual and cumulative effects of the NWP(s) on local resources. On 12 July 2007, the supplemental documentation was issued by the division engineer and the Jacksonville District's proposed regional conditions were approved. Where required by the terms of the permit, general conditions, and/or regional conditions, the Jacksonville District will continue to perform case-specific review to ensure that the NWP will authorize only activities with no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the environment and those activities will not be contrary to the public interest.

2. Name and address of applicant:

FDOT District One  
P.O. Box 1249  
Bartow, FL 33831-1249

3. Project description: 0.49 acre of impact to waters of the United States for construction of passing lanes on State Road 70. The purpose of the project is to improve the highway to meet safety standards. This activity meets the terms and conditions for authorization under Nationwide Permit 14, as published in the 12 March 2007, issue of the Federal Register (72 FR 11092).

4. Project location: The proposed project is located along SR 70 from SE Turkey Hammock Road to one mile west of the DeSoto/Highlands County line, in Sections 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 37 South, Range 25 East, and Sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 37 South, Range 26 East, in DeSoto County, Florida.

5. Existing site conditions:

The project area along SR 70 includes the open surface waters of agricultural canals and disturbed wetlands predominantly vegetated with ruderal and invasive plant species such as primrose willow and cattails.

6. Scope of Analysis: The scope of analysis is limited to the 0.49 acre of waters of the US directly impacted by the project and the immediately adjacent wetlands and uplands.



7. Alternatives: See *Decision Document for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the Director of Civil Works on 1 March 2007 and *Supplemental Environmental Assessment for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the South Atlantic Division Commander on 12 July 2007.

9. Evaluation of the potential adverse environmental effects (direct, indirect and cumulative) of the proposed activity: See *Decision Document for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the Director of Civil Works on 1 March 2007 and *Supplemental Environmental Assessment for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the South Atlantic Division Commander on 12 July 2007

10. Mitigation required to ensure that the activity being verified by the Corps will have no more than minimal adverse effects on the environment: The applicant has agreed to purchase 0.21 credits from the Peace River Mitigation Bank to offset the wetland functional loss associated with the project's impacts.

11. Other Federal, State, and Local Authorizations Obtained or Required and Pending:

- a. Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification (WQC): The South Florida Water Management District issued Environmental Resource Permit number 44033219.000 to the applicant on January 16, 2008.
- b. Coastal Zone Management (CZM) consistency certification: There is no evidence or indication from the State of Florida that the project is inconsistent with the Florida CZM. Issuance of a DEP/WMD permit certifies that the project is consistent with the CZM plan.
- c. Endangered Species Act compliance: The proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the eastern indigo snake, wood stork, and Audubon's crested caracara based on the information supplied by the applicant and the February 24, 2008 concurrence letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The verification letter will include the standard eastern indigo snake protection measures.

The proposed project will not affect any other threatened or endangered species based on the information supplied by the applicant.

- d. National Historic Preservation Act compliance: NHPA concerns will be addressed by placement of a special condition in the verification letter advising permittees: 1) to contact the SHPO prior to initiating any work, 2) how to proceed should unexpected cultural resources be encountered.
- e. Other authorizations: N/A

12. Special Conditions: The following measures are being required by the permit authorization, and/or are being assured and provided voluntarily by the permit applicant, to ensure that the activity being authorized by the Corps will have no more than minimal adverse effects on the environment:

- A. Within 60 days of completion of the work authorized, the attached "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" must be completed and submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers. Mail the completed form to the Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

B. No structure or work shall adversely affect or disturb properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places or those eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Prior to the start of work, the Permittee or other party on the Permittee's behalf, shall conduct a search in the National Register Information System (NRIS). Information can be found at; <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/nris.htm>. Information on properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register can be identified by contacting the Florida Master File Office by email at [fmsfile@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:fmsfile@dos.state.fl.us) or by telephone at 850-245-6440.

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If unmarked human remains are encountered, all work shall stop immediately, and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes, unless on Federal lands. After such notifications, project activities on non-Federal lands shall not resume without verbal and/or written authorization from the Florida State Archaeologist for finds under his or her jurisdiction.

C. As mitigation for the wetland impacts authorized by this permit, the permittee will purchase 0.09 freshwater forested wetland credit and 0.12 freshwater herbaceous wetland credit from the Peace River Mitigation Bank. The applicant shall submit proof of the purchase within 90 days of permit issuance to the Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019. The purchase shall be made prior to commencing any of the wetland impacts authorized by this DA permit.

D. The permittee agrees to implement the attached 'Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake' (as revised July 27, 1999) to minimize the potential for impacts to the eastern indigo snake.

13. Public interest review: See *Decision Document for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the Director of Civil Works on 1 March 2007 and *Supplemental Environmental Assessment for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the South Atlantic Division Commander on 12 July 2007.

14. Finding of No Significant Impact. See *Decision Document for Nationwide Permit 14*, which was approved by the Director of Civil Works on 1 March 2007.

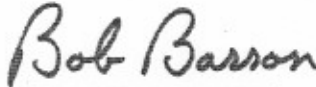
15. Public Interest Determination: This activity, if conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the NWP and the special conditions stated in the NWP verification letter, will not be contrary to the public interest.

PREPARED BY:

REVIEWED BY:



Project Manager



Reviewer

Date: 27-Feb-08 Date: 27Feb08